



OLDER LGBTQIA+ ADULTS & AGING

Aaron Tax, JD
Managing Director of Government Affairs &
Policy Advocacy
SAGE

May 15, 2023

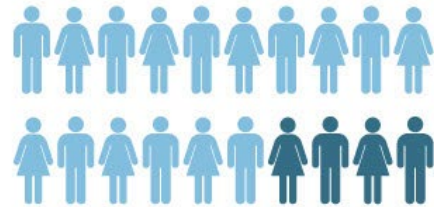
WHO ARE LGBT ELDERS?

2.7 MILLION LGBT ADULTS AGED 50 AND OLDER

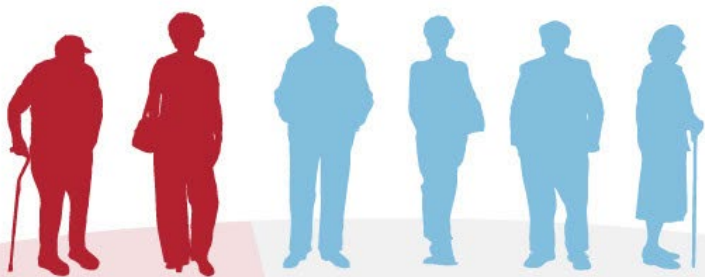
1.1 MILLION ARE 65 AND OLDER



APPROXIMATELY **ONE IN FIVE** (20%) LGBT OLDER ADULTS ARE PEOPLE OF COLOR



ONE-THIRD OF LGBT OLDER ADULTS LIVE AT OR BELOW 200% OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL



INCLUDING...

40% OF LGBT ADULTS 80 AND OLDER

40% OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LGBT OLDER ADULTS

40% OF HISPANIC LGBT OLDER ADULTS

47% OF BISEXUAL OLDER MEN

48% OF BISEXUAL OLDER WOMEN

48% OF TRANSGENDER OLDER ADULTS



A lifetime of discrimination, especially in housing and employment, and a long term lack of legal and social recognition combine to create deep economic insecurity for LGBT elders



A reliance on chosen family, due to family rejection and legalized discrimination, creates social isolation and vulnerability for LGBT elders



Long-term discrimination, combined with lack of competent, inclusive health care, leads to specific mental and physical health disparities.

Mental Health & Other Challenges

- Research shows that LGBTQ+ older adults have worse mental and physical health compared to straight and cisgender older adults.
- They have experienced high rates of lifetime discrimination and physical and verbal abuse in relation to their sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Lifetime disparities in earnings, employment, and retirement saving opportunities put LGBTQ+ older adults at risk of financial instability and poverty.
- Many LGBTQ+ older adults are forced to rely on institutional and professional care and support; they are more likely to live alone and less likely to have children to help them than their heterosexual and cisgender peers.
- Many may also be estranged or concealing their sexual orientation or gender identity from biological families due to fear of rejection.

Anti Trans Legislation

The ACLU is tracking 435 anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

- Trevor Project Survey
- Lack of Trans Elder Data

LGBTQ+ AGING POLICY LANDSCAPE

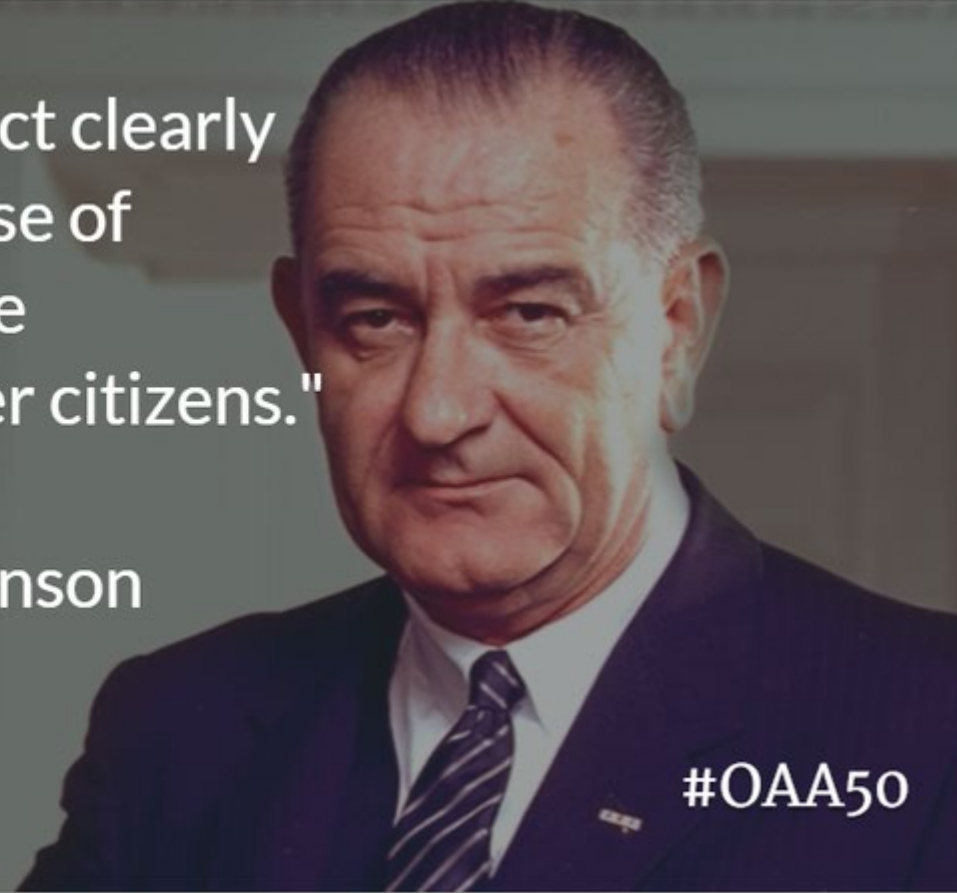
- LGBTQ+ inclusive data collection across federal and state agencies
- Long Term Care Bills of Rights (federal leg/admin and state)
- Cultural Competency Training Requirements
- Ensure inclusive implementation of the Older Americans Act
- Partnerships with Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and State Units on Aging (SUAs)

OLDER AMERICANS ACT

"The Older Americans Act clearly affirms our Nation's sense of responsibility toward the well-being of all our older citizens."

President Lyndon B. Johnson
July 14, 1965

#OAA50



OLDER AMERICANS ACT 101

WHAT DOES IT DO?

- Funds critical services that keep older adults healthy and independent so that they can age in place in their communities
 - Senior centers
 - Meals
 - Job training
 - Health promotion
 - Transportation
 - Caregiver support
- Authorizes service programs through state units on aging (SUAs) and area agencies on aging (AAAs)
- Created the Administration for Community Living under HHS
 - Tasked with implementing the OAA

Federal



States



622 Area
Agencies on
Aging



Local
service
providers



2020 Reauthorization



Updated Older Americans Act Language & New ACL Guidance on LGBTQ+ & HIV Inclusion

What do the new OAA language and the ACL guidance say?

The 2020 reauthorization of the OAA requires the aging network to:

1. Engage in outreach to **LGBTQ+** older people
2. **Collect data** on their needs
3. Collect data on whether **you** are meeting those needs

This language is found in §3026 Area Plans and §3027 State Plans.

§3027 states:

(30) The plan shall contain an assurance that the State shall prepare and submit to the Assistant Secretary annual reports that describe —

(A) data collected to determine the services that are needed by older individuals whose needs were the focus of all centers funded under subchapter IV in fiscal year 2019;

(B) data collected to determine the effectiveness of the programs, policies, and services provided by area agencies on aging in assisting such individuals; and

(C) outreach efforts and other activities carried out to satisfy the assurances described in paragraphs (18) and (19) of section 3026(a) of this title.



Thanks!

Aaron Tax
Managing Director of
Government
Relations and Policy
Advocacy

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Services for
LGBTQ+ Elders
We refuse to be invisible®